

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, delete lines 1-3 in their entirety.

Page 1, before line 7, the paragraph beginning with "The invention relates", insert the following title:

-- BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The invention relates to a grate furnace with a grate ~~consisting of~~ having grate steps ~~composed of~~ including grate elements lying next to one another, ~~of which grate steps in each case~~ every second grate step in the longitudinal direction of the grate can be driven for carrying out stoking movements and the grate steps in each case lying therebetween are stationary, the drive devices for the movable grate steps being arranged under the grate. --

Page 1, before line 17, the paragraph beginning with "Known grates", insert the following title:

-- 2. Description of the Prior Art --

Page 2, before line 19, the paragraph beginning with "It is an object", insert the following title:

-- SUMMARY OF THE PRESENT INVENTION --

Page 7, before line 11, the paragraph beginning with "The invention is", insert the following title:

-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --

Page 8, before line 3, the paragraph beginning with "A grate furnace", insert the following title:

-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Each drive device, with the exception of the drive device 18.4 which serves for the drive of the last two movable grate steps just before the ash chute, ~~are~~ ~~[sie]~~ is arranged in a housing 25 which is continuous in the illustrative embodiment and is divided into housing chambers which are designated by reference numbers 25.2 to 25.4 below. These housing chambers 25, which can be seen from Figures 2 and 3 in particular, surround the drive devices 18.1, 18.2 and 18.3 in a protective manner. The drive arrangement 18.4 is situated under a fee hopper 26 for the ash chute 6 and is consequently located outside the grate region, for which reason a housing chamber is not provided for this drive. --

Page 12, delete lines 1-3 in their entirety

Page 12, line 6, change the title "Patent Claims" to -- What is claimed is: --

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Please replace the Abstract with the new Abstract attached hereto on a separate page.